

**CITY OF NORWALK
HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
APPLICATION REVIEW COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 27, 2017**

ATTENDANCE: John Pinto; Bill Gardella; John Romano (6:11 pm); Tony Mobilia

STAFF: Geoff Steadman

OTHERS: Pete Johnson, Steven Bartush, Shellfish Commission

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Pinto called the meeting to order at 6:30 p. m.

APPLICATIONS

1. 61 Bluff Avenue LLC, Wilson Cove Norwalk, Pre-application review. The applicant, Mr. Matthew Schimenti, proposes to construct a 4'x 41' long steel framed pier with a 3.5'x45' aluminum ramp and an 8'x20' timber floating dock. The pier structure will be supported by (four) 12" diameter steel piles and the floating dock will be secured by (four) 12" diameter steel piles.

Dr. Pinto reviewed the application. He stated that the Shellfish Commission expressed concerns about the length of the pier structure, and would like it reduced to 100 sq. ft. Dr. Pinto stated that mooring balls would have to be used instead of spudding. He stated that spudding damages the shellfish beds. He stated that the applicant will need to consult the Harbor Master before starting the work.

**** DR. PINTO MOVED TO APPROVE 61 BLUFF AVENUE LLC, WILSON COVE NORWALK, PRE-APPLICATION REVIEW. THE APPLICANT, MR. MATTHEW SCHIMENTI, PROPOSES TO CONSTRUCT A 4'X 41' LONG STEEL FRAMED PIER WITH A 3.5'X45' ALUMINUM RAMP AND AN 8'X20' TIMBER FLOATING DOCK. THE PIER STRUCTURE WILL BE SUPPORTED BY (FOUR) 12" DIAMETER STEEL PILES AND THE FLOATING DOCK WILL BE SECURED BY (FOUR) 12" DIAMETER STEEL PILES WITH CONDITIONS.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Romano arrived at 6:11 p. m.

2. 198-200 EAST AVENUE. CAM APPLICATION. THE APPLICANT, DIMITRIOS DIMITROGOU, PROPOSES TO COMBINE THE ONE AND TWO-UNIT RESIDENTIAL DWELLINGS ON THE CURRENT PROPERTIES INTO ONE NEW ADDRESS (200 EAST AVENUE). PART OF THE RE-CONSTRUCTION IS TO ELEVATE A DECK ON HIS PROPERTY WHICH APPEARS TO BE WATERWARD OF THE COASTAL JURISDICTION LINE ON THE PROPERTY.

Dr. Pinto reviewed the application, and recommended approval.

** MR. GARDELLA MOVED TO APPROVE 198-200 EAST AVENUE. CAM APPLICATION. THE APPLICANT, DIMITRIOS DIMITROGOU, PROPOSES TO COMBINE THE ONE AND TWO-UNIT RESIDENTIAL DWELLINGS ON THE CURRENT PROPERTIES INTO ONE NEW ADDRESS (200 EAST AVENUE). PART OF THE RE-CONSTRUCTION IS TO ELEVATE A DECK ON HIS PROPERTY WHICH APPEARS TO BE WATERWARD OF THE COASTAL JURISDICTION LINE ON THE PROPERTY WITH CONDITIONS.

** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. Eversource Transmission Line Relocation-Pre-application review. Presentation by Eversource of the preferred route for the relocated transmission lines for the WALK BRIDGE project.

Ms. Marcia Wellman came forward in favor of the item. She stated that Eversource currently has two 115,000 kV transmission lines that run along the railroad corridor. In order for the Walk Bridge to be rebuilt, Eversource must relocate these lines through SONO before reconnecting to the railroad corridor further east. She stated that in April the City, CT DOT and Eversource reached an agreement on the preferred route for the transmission lines.

Ms. Wellman stated that the path chosen for the transmission lines eliminates the need for over-head lines throughout SONO. It limits impacts to residential and business properties, avoids impacts to the sewage treatment facility and Heritage. She stated that it limits the impact on Veterans Park. It poses no adverse impact to use or health of Norwalk Harbor.

Ms. Wellman stated that a horizontal directional drill will be used to cross the harbor. 90 Water Street would be the sending site and Veteran's Park would be the receiving site. She stated that work is scheduled to begin in the 4th quarter of 2018. She stated that the Connecticut Siting Council has the ability to deem it necessary to conduct a public hearing.

Dr. Pinto asked about what impact the transmission lines would have on the future developments at the Veteran's Park dock. Ms. Wellman stated she would have to consult with the engineers and send a formal letter to the Commission detailing the how close pilings could get to the transmission lines. Mr. Romano asked about the possibility of Eversource providing assistance to the City so that the Veteran's Park dock could be completed at the same time as the transmission lines are installed. Ms. Wellman stated that Eversource has no plans to do that.

Mr. Romano left the meeting at 6:47 p. m.

4. Vessel Relocation Study Walk Bridge Project-- The study addresses construction related impacts to the Maritime Aquarium research vessel and the Sheffield Island Lighthouse Ferry, both located between Walk Bridge and Stroffolino Rt 136 Bridge. The study evaluates the need to relocate both vessels and presents physical alternatives intended to support safe operations for the organizations affected by the Walk Bridge construction project.

Dr. Pinto stated that we do not have sufficient information at this time to make a favorable recommendation on this application.

5. Kelp Farm, South of Sheffield Island, Jean Paul Vellotti, Westport, CT. Tentative Notice to Approve. The applicant plans to construct a seasonal kelp farm in the vicinity south of Sheffield Island. The system will be deployed in late fall and removed in early spring.

Mr. Jean Paul Vellotti came forward in favor of the item. He stated that the drawing he submitted was prepared by an engineer with the State of Connecticut. He stated that the state has told him the system can be deployed until June 15, 2018. Mr. Bartush stated that the Shellfish Commission wants the system out by May 15, 2018. Mr. Vellotti stated he is not interested in removing the system on June 1, 2017. Mr. Johnson stated the item would be discussed at the next Shellfish Commission meeting.

6. I95 Yankee Doodle Bridge Rehabilitation Project: Although no formal application has been presented to Norwalk Harbor Management Commission regarding this project and with time permitting, a brief discussion of the proposal will be held.

Dr. Pinto stated that the CT DOT has added retention ponds to their plans for I-95. He stated that this is a substantial improvement, as the CT DOT had not previously acknowledged that the ditches were needed.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p. m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Blaney
Telesco Secretarial Services